

ABSTRACT

A skimmer apparatus for collecting material, particularly oil, floating on the surface of a body of water, comprises collecting vessel with a collection compartment. The collection compartment includes an upper subcompartment delimited laterally by an inner wall having a skimming weir forming an inlet to the collection compartment and a lower subcompartment which is delimited laterally by an outer wall and communicates with a bottom outlet. Connected with the collection compartment is means for discharging water therefrom through the bottom outlet. The inner wall and the outer wall delimit a separation compartment for the floating material. This compartment is in open communication with the upper subcompartment of the collection compartment. A valve is provided at the top of the separation compartment and when in an open position connects the separation compartment with the upper subcompartment of the collection compartment.

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